

REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 34-41, 46, and 48 remain pending.

The Examiner objected to claims 34, 38, and 48 for the reasons set forth on pages 2-3 of the Office Action. The above amendments incorporate the Examiner's suggestions to overcome the objection.

Claims 34, 40, and 46 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for the reasons set forth on pages 3-4 of the Office Action.

Claims 34 and 46 have also been amended to incorporate the Examiner's suggestions to overcome the rejection. Claim 40 has been amended to improve its clarity; the Applicants refer to page 84, lines 17-24 of the specification for an example of support.

Claim 48 stands rejected under 35 USC §101 as failing to recite patentable subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner requires the Applicants to recite computer-instructions, and an apparatus in the body of the claim. Claim 48 has been amended to add these requirements. In the event that these amendments do not fully comply with the Examiner's requirements, the Applicants' representative requests a telephone call at the number below to discuss any changes that may be necessary to place the claim in condition for allowance.

In closing, the Applicants and their representative appreciate the Examiner's kind suggestions to place the claims in better form for allowance. The Applicants' representative requests the Examiner to telephone him at the number below if any further amendments may be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

To the extent necessary, the Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Brundidge & Stanger, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-4888 (referencing attorney docket no. ASA-724-02).

Respectfully submitted,

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